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WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE

Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service Washington, D.C. 20250

WR 16-83

United States

WASHINGTON, April 20--The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following developments in world agriculture and trade:

OILSEEDS AND PRODUCTS

FINLAND is expected to increase its imports of soybeans to 130,000 tons in 1983, mostly at the expense of fish meal imports from Norway. In recent years, the United States provided nearly all of Finland's soybean imports. Larger soybean imports are the result of an increase in the price of fish meal relative to soybeans and a decreasing obligation on the part of Finland to accept Norwegian fish meal so that they can export grain to Norway, as Finland has not had a surplus grain problem for some time. In addition, the fish meal content in feed rations has become so high that eggs and pork have begun to acquire a fishy taste. Farmers have been induced to increase soybean imports out of fear that consumers might develop a distaste for eggs and pork. Use of full-fat soybeans for pet and fur animal feeding has also expanded recently. One factor hindering expansion of protein meals in mixed feeds, however, is the problem of meat and dairy product surpluses, which tempts the government to discourage use of concentrate feedstuffs.

PERU's production of vegetable and fish oils is expected to drop sharply in 1983 to 121,000 tons from 246,000 tons in 1982. The high production in 1982, 103 percent above 1981, was due entirely to the improved fish catch and fish oil production, which at 205,000 tons was the highest since 1975. However, the commercially important catch of cold water fish species has declined sharply because of the warm "El Nino" current, which set new records for severity. Due to a smaller catch and lower oil yields from warm water species now being caught, fish oil production is expected to decline to only 80,000 tons in 1983.

In addition to lowering fish oil production, "El Nino" has caused disastrous weather changes. Production of cottonseed oil is down because of low cotton prices as well as floods due to torrential rains. The poor prospects for the fish catch and reduced cotton oil output will mean that Peru's domestic oil production will meet only a little more than half of the country's needs. Substantial imports of vegetable oils, currently estimated by industry sources at between 100,000 and 120,000 tons, will be needed in 1983.

—more—

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DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

For the new fiscal year beginning in April, JAPAN has left floor and ceiling prices unchanged for pork and beef. Although the impact on imports is not expected to be significant, this action may indicate that the government of Japan is reacting to international pressures for reduced trade barriers on these items by discouraging rises in domestic prices. Presently, the average of floor and ceiling prices is about \$1.30 per pound for pork, \$2.45 for dairy beef and \$3.10 for Waygu beef.

Target prices for manufacturing milk in Japan were raised about 1 percent. To reflect a 4-percent increase in demand for fluid milk during the first nine months of 1982, the Japanese government has raised the standard purchase price (which processors must pay producers for milk) 5 percent to about \$12.40 per hundredweight (cwt). The balance of the approximate \$16.30 per cwt target price is provided to producers by deficiency payments. A decrease in the deficiency payment (from about \$4.40 per cwt to about \$3.90) for Japan fiscal 1983 has allowed the government to increase the quantity of milk eligible for payments by 11 percent while keeping budgetary outlays approximately the same.

The EUROPEAN COMMUNITY's livestock census for December 1982 showed cattle numbers up 0.5 percent to 78.3 million head. Total cow numbers were up 0.4 percent to 31.1 million head, with dairy cows up 0.5 percent and beef cows unchanged. Hog numbers were reported up 0.2 percent to 79.1 million head. Breeding sows were up 0.1 percent to 8.9 million head. A 3-percent increase in gilts saved for breeding was reported.

FRUITS AND NUTS

JAPAN has announced a fresh orange import quota of 23,500 tons under the general quota for the first half of its 1983 fiscal year (April-September) and a 45,500-ton seasonal quota for imports during June-August 1983.

The existing U.S.-Japanese trade agreement calls for a fresh orange import quota for entire Japanese fiscal year of 82,000 tons. Therefore, a 13,000-ton import quota for the second half of the year (October 1983-March 1984) remains to be allocated.

Commercial production of fresh pineapple by the MAJOR WORLD PRODUCERS is expected to increase moderately in 1983. Combined output is currently forecast at nearly 4.5 million tons, up from 4.3 million in 1982. Larger crops are anticipated for all producing countries in the Far East. Fresh output in Thailand and Taiwan is expected to increase 17 and 3 percent, respectively, reflecting increased domestic demand and higher farm prices. The upturn in Malaysia's production over the past two years stems from an extensive rehabilitation and replanting program begun in 1980 on large estates. The steady growth in output from these estates now more than offsets the decline in supplies from small-holders, who are shifting to other crops or industrial occupations in steadily increasing numbers.

Pineapple production in Australia, Mexico and the United States has been trending downward since 1979. Significant cutbacks in planted area—due to depressed net returns—are primarily responsible for the decline.

Fresh pineapple production in specified countries was as follows, in 1,000 tons:

	1981	1982	1983 1/
Australia	123	116	115
Ivory Coast	289	325	330
Malaysia	154	160	170
Mexico	550	450	400
Philippines	891	889	890
South Africa	243	245	237
Taiwan	181	145	150
Thailand	1,824	1,439	1,680
United States	577	5 49	510
Total	4,832	4,318	4,482

1/ Preliminary.

PORTUGAL's almond output for the 1983 season is expected to be the smallest since 1979. According to the U.S. agricultural attache in Lisbon, the 1983 crop will not exceed 3,000 tons, down from 3,900 tons in 1982, because of frost damage to blossoms last February.

COFFEE, TEA AND COCOA

The 1982 tea production estimate for SELECTED COUNTRIES, released by USDA on April 6 (WR-14), has been revised downward from 1.895 to 1.865 million tons. The revision is based on a reduction of the 1982 Turkish tea crop, now estimated at 60,000 tons, down 33 percent from the initial estimate of 90,000.

-4-Selected International Prices

Item :	April	19, 1983	: Change from previous week	
	\$ per MT	\$ per bu.	\$ per MT	\$ per MT
ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/	4 por	4 por bu-	4 per in	4 per ···
Wheat:				
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%.	204.00	5.55	-0-	203.00
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%	185.00	5.04	50	188.00
U.S. No. 2 DHW/HW: 13.5%	N.Q.			202.00
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W	158.00	4.30	-2.00	174.00
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D	188.00	5.12	-3.00	182.00
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum Feed grains:	204.00	5.55	-3.00	N.Q.
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn	146.50	3.72	+1.00	135.50
U.S. No. 2 Sorghum 2/	N.Q.			144.00
Feed Barley 3/ Soybeans and meal:	N.Q.			N.Q.
U.S. No. 2 Yellow	248.75	6.77	-5.25	262.00
Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets 4/	224.00		-1.00	N.Q.
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal U.S. FARM PRICES 5/	216.50		-3. 50	227.50
Wheat	138.14	3.76	37	136.31
Barley	81.76	1.78	+4.13	85.43
Corn	117.72	2.99	+1.18	101.18
Sorghum	108.47	4.926/	+1.32	92.81
Broilers 7/ EC IMPORT LEVIES	897.27	7 1 77	+2.86	894.72
Wheat 8/	101.09	2.75	+4.17	77.25
Barley	97.17	2.12	-4.08	74.55
Corn	76.95	1.95	-2.50	86.95
Sorghum	73.28	1.86	-1.71	79.80
Broilers 9/	306.00		-2.00	271.00
EC INTERVENTION PRICES 11/ Common wheat(feed quality)	105 (1	E 06	1 40	105 00
	185.61	5.05	-1.42 -1.55	185.00 212.42
Bread wheat Barley and all	203.57	5.54		
other feed grains	185.61		-1.42	185.00
Broilers 12/ EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidi	1132.00 .es)		+38.00	N.Q.
Wheat	62.85	1.71	-3.62	64.86
Wheat flour	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.
Barley	77.06	1.68	-2.09	40.85
Broilers 9/	206.00		-3.00 13/	170.00
Sugar, refined 15/	N.Q.		N.Q.	N.Q.

I/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam. 2/ Optional delivery: Argentine Granifero sorghum. 3/ Optional delivery: Canadian feed barley. 4/ Optional delivery: Argentine. 5/ Based on selected major markets and adjusted to reflect farm prices more closely. 6/ Hundredweight (CWT). 7/ Nine-city average; wholesale weighted average. 8/ Durum has a special levy. 9/ EC category--70 percent whole chicken. 10/ Reflects exchange rate change and not level set by EC. 11/ Reflects change by EC effective Feb. 1, 1983 from 31.8 ECU's/100 kg. to 33.15 ECU's/100 kg. **Reflects exchange rate change only. 12/ F.o.b price for R.T.C. whole broilers at West German border. 13/ Subsidy increase reflects change by EC Effective Feb. 1, 1983 from 20.50 ECU's/100 kg to 22.50 ECU's/100 kg. 14/ F.o.b. price for whole R.T.C. broilers at West German border. N.Q.=Not quoted. Note: Basis May delivery.

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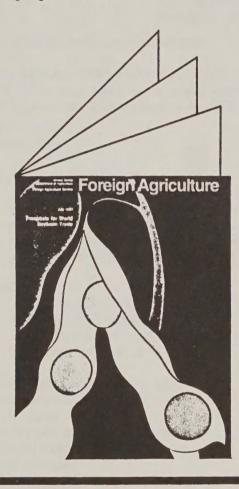
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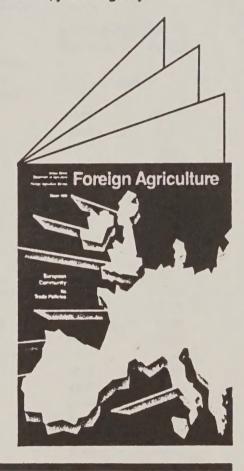
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